(c) whether under the Central Road Fund, an assistance of about Rs. 1,000 crore per year is being given to the State highways;

(d) if so, the assessment made by his Ministry in regard to investment of the fund by them; and

(e) what is the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways. The development and maintenance of all other roads is the responsibility of the respective State Government. The Central Government however, provides funds to the States for development of State Highways, Major District Roads and rural roads under the Central Road Fund. Development of National Highways is a continuous process and is taken up in phases based on Annual Plans subject to availability of funds.

(b) Anyone interested in constructing the stretches of Golden Quadrilateral and the Corridors through Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) can participate under prescribed procurement procedure. However, on Golden Quadrilateral, all projects excepting 84 km long Allahabad bypass, have been awarded.

(c) Yes, Sir. The assistance is provided for development and maintenance of State Highways and major district roads.

(d) and (e) Total accruals for State roads out of Central Road Fund is Rs. 2927 crores since 2000-2001. However, an amount of Rs. 881.96 crores has so far released to States, based on utilisation.

Private Sector Investment in National Highways Development Project (NHDP)

2479. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the latest estimates, the second

phase of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) would cost Rs. 30,000 crore out of which only Rs. 3,000 crore would be from the private sector; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for Government not encouraging the private sector to invest in this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Feasibility Studies and Project preparation of balance length of about 5800 km of North-South and East-West Corridor under Second Phase of National Highway Development Project is yet to be undertaken/completed. It is too early to determine the amount for private sector participation.

(b) Does not arise.

Roads in Orissa

2480. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the National Highways Government propose to take up during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether any such National Highway would pass through Orissa, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have repaired the Highways in Orissa which were damaged during the last floods, supercyclone, *etc*; if so, the details of the repairs and the amount spent on repairs or reconstruction *etc;* and

(d) whether some damaged highways are still to be repaired in Orissa and the State Government has shown its inability to share the cost for want of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b)There is no proposal to declare any new National